

Message from the Chairperson of World Society of Disaster Nursing

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On behalf of Board members, I would like to thank you for your support to our activities of World Society of Disaster Nursing. I would also like to thank you to Dr. Stefan Görres who is the Conference Chairperson of 5th WSDN in Bremen, Germany and his organizing team members. They are now working very hard in order to conduct the 5th Conference dated on 18th and 19th of October, 2018.

In recent years, as the number of disasters with great scale has increased worldwide, relief and support activities have been provided across national borders. However, the information and knowledge gained from such activities was not well shared or utilized. Against this background, establishment of an International Society of Disaster Nursing has been required, to promote international academic exchange and collaborative research, and systematize knowledge and practice in the field of disaster nursing. In May 2007 the Japan Society of Disaster Nursing (JSDN) initiated a committee to establish an International Society of Disaster Nursing, with the participation of volunteers from Korea, United Kingdom, China and Japan. Following the founding member meeting, the World Society of Disaster Nursing was inaugurated on January 22, 2008 in Kobe, Japan. The founding members comprising 40 organizations from seven countries (Korea, United Kingdom, Thailand, Indonesia, the United States, China and Japan) were universities, research institutes, and/or nursing-related organizations in the world. The founding member meeting, held in the morning of the same day, decided the WSDN's chairperson of the board of directors, its bylaws, and the conference chairpersons for the first and second academic conferences.

The first WSDN academic conference was held in Japan in 2009, with Dr. Hiroko Minami as the conference chairperson who was the chairperson of the JSDN and President Kindai Himeji University. The second WSDN academic conference was held in Cardiff, Wales in 2012, with Professor Donna Mead as the Chairperson who is Dean and Professor at Glanmorgan University. President of Chinese Nursing Association (CNA), Dr. Li conducted the 3rd Conference of WSDN at Beijing, China, 2014. The fourth conference in Indonesia was conducted by Dr. Yani Achir who is the professor of University of Indonesia. This year, 2018, Dr. Stefan Görres who is professor of University Bremen and his team will welcome you in Bremen. Please visit our web site: <http://www.wsdn2008.com/> .

Two documents by United Nation were concluded in 2015. Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (SFDRR) was concluded at Sendai, Japan in March. After that, Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) based on the achievement of Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) also concluded at New York in September. Four priorities for action, such as understanding disaster risk, strengthening disaster risk governance to manage disaster risk, investing in disaster risk reduction for resilience, and enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response and to “Build Back Better” in recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction are included in SFDRR. SDGs has 17 goals to change world situations, such as no poverty, to ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages, clean water and sanitation, and others. There are many issues that we have to fight for solving problems related to disaster nursing in the worldwide.

It is my sincere hope that many member organizations of WSDN will send own members and gather in Bremen, Germany from around the world to exchange, discuss, and learn our common interest, and to enjoy autumn season in Germany.

We are looking forward to seeing many WSDN members in Bremen.